



Hurricane Harvey 2017 9/6/2017 – 0700 CDT Update

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Texas Governor Abbott is planning on making an announcement in the Governor's Public Reception Room at the Capitol in Austin this Thursday, September 7th at 10AM. He plans to travel to Corpus Christi, Houston, Victoria, Fort Bend County and Beaumont Thursday-Saturday. FEMA Tony Robinson and EPA acting RA Coleman have been invited to travel with the Governor.
- EPA Senior Advisors to the Administrator continue to tour areas impacted by the storm and will travel to the Beaumont-Port Arthur area today. They will meet with Pt. Arthur community advocate Hilton Kelly.
- EPA continues drinking water/waste water (DW/WW) system assessments. The Alabama-Coushatta Tribe provided EPA a comprehensive update of the impact of the storm to their reservation. The two drinking water systems and two sewer treatment plants on the reservation did not experience any major issues as a result of the storm.
- Hazard evaluations, and container recovery operations in coordination with state and local partners.
- EPA continues to respond to concerns about air quality associated with emissions from the Valero Houston Refinery. EPA's Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) conducted air monitoring in southeast Houston around the Valero Refinery. Late last night, the City of Houston reported their mobile MAAML found benzene at 5.23 ppb and a summa canister reading for benzene at 334 ppb. EPA began conducting on-site facility inspections and is sending letters to facilities in the Manchester neighborhood of Houston, encouraging the facilities to conduct surveys and monitoring to identify and address any unauthorized sources of VOCs.
- EPA has begun a large deployment of community liaisons to serve in thirty-eight county Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) throughout the impacted areas to assist with public outreach on post-flood hazards.
- EPA has increased the number of response personnel to assist the Beaumont/Port Arthur area, and responded to an oil spill in Orangefield, Orange County, Texas.

- EPA is coordinating with US Coast Guard (USCG) on a large oil spill in the Houston area.
- EPA hosted the first coordination call for environmental justice advocates from Texas and Louisiana. EPA provided a general update to advocates from the impacted areas and gathered feedback on response efforts and challenges. The next call is scheduled for next week.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Community Liaison deployment has begun. After training in the Houston area, the Community Liaisons will report to county Emergency Operations Centers across the affected areas. Responsibilities will include collaborating with local resources to distribute information at many levels. Municipalities will be provided information on items such as Debris Removal Plans and Pharmaceutical Waste Management and the public will be provided relevant information of mold, disinfection and other topics.

DEBRIS RECOVERY

EPA currently has no mission assignment for debris recovery operations.

AIR MONITORING

EPA's mobile air monitoring TAGA bus conducted air monitoring in the Houston area today near the Valero Refinery. The TAGA detected benzene below the TCEQ Short Term Effects Screening Level (ESL). The Houston Health Department has been utilizing TCEQ Short Term numbers for air monitoring. An EPA toxicologist will review the data today.

Additional air monitoring was conducted near the Valero Refinery, north of 225 and west of 610 in Houston. No benzene was detected.

The TAGA bus will continue air monitoring in the Houston Branch today.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Daily/Cumulative Summary of Hazard Evaluations/Recovery				
Status	Opened		Closed	
	9/5/2017	Cumulative	9/5/2017	Cumulative
Corpus Christi Branch	4	31	7	65
Houston Branch	27	154	7	22
NRC Reports	0	3	0	0
* Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered. Closed means the target was recovered/left in place or access was denied to collect the item.				

Daily/Cumulative Summary of Spills/Discharges				
Status	Opened		Closed	
	9/5/2017	Cumulative	9/5/2017	Cumulative
Corpus Christi Branch	32	383	26	58
Houston Branch	13	50	6	12
NRC Reports	2	29	0	15
* Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered. Closed means the target was recovered/left in place or access was denied to collect the item.				

FIELD RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

CORPUS CHRISTI BRANCH:

- EPA teams responded to and recovered orphan containers from Port Aransas to Rockport.
- Oil Discharge Recovery teams worked to engage local vessel owners to ensure removal and remediation of displaced vessels. Two of these teams monitored Responsible Party led operations in Island Moorings and Cove Harbor, while also identifying threats to the environment for removal.
- The Corpus Christi Branch continues to manage the staging area pad.
- A total of five cylinders were recovered during this operational period.

	CONTAINERS			Cylinders	TOTAL
	Drums [55 gals]	Large Containers [<55 gals]	Large Containers [>55 gals]		
9/5/2017	0	0	0	5	0
Total to date	49	32	5	10	86

HOUSTON BRANCH:

- Nineteen Hazard Evaluation teams conducted and completed assessments in Liberty County, Chambers County and Montgomery County. They identified 24 targets with no significant issues. The overall hazard assessment status in Liberty and Chambers County is 100% complete, 70% complete in Montgomery County and 10% complete in Austin County.
- The Air Recon Team conducted an aerial overflight to reassess Freeport, Baytown, Kemah and Anahuac with nothing significant to report. An overflight also occurred over Austin, Matagorda and Colorado Counties with six sites identified in Matagorda County for additional follow up.
- Six Discharge Assessment Teams assessed 15 targets, discovered two semi-submerged vessels and inspected 14 floated vessels at Seashore Marina with nothing significant to report. The Discharge Assessment Group also identified potential locations for staging pending the implementation of salvage plans and operations.
- USCG Sector Houston notified EPA about a large oil spill, estimated at 1,600 gallons, that was determined to be storm related. Sector Houston has been working the spill since August 31, 2017. Since flood waters have receded the source has been contained.

Assessments were impacted by road closures and flooding in Chambers County. Grid areas that were inaccessible by land were checked by overflights.

- EPA conducted an assessment of a damaged tank at the Valero Refinery.

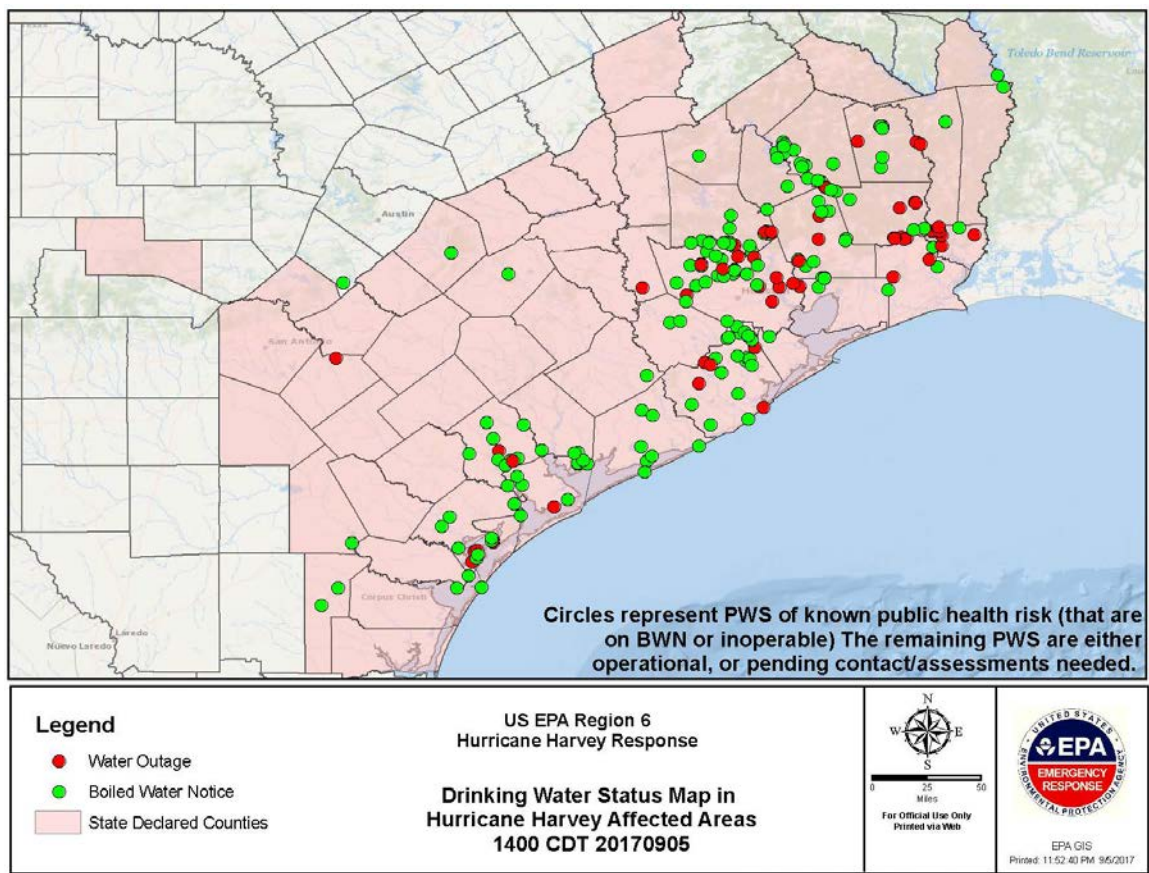
PORT ARTHUR/BEAUMONT BRANCH:

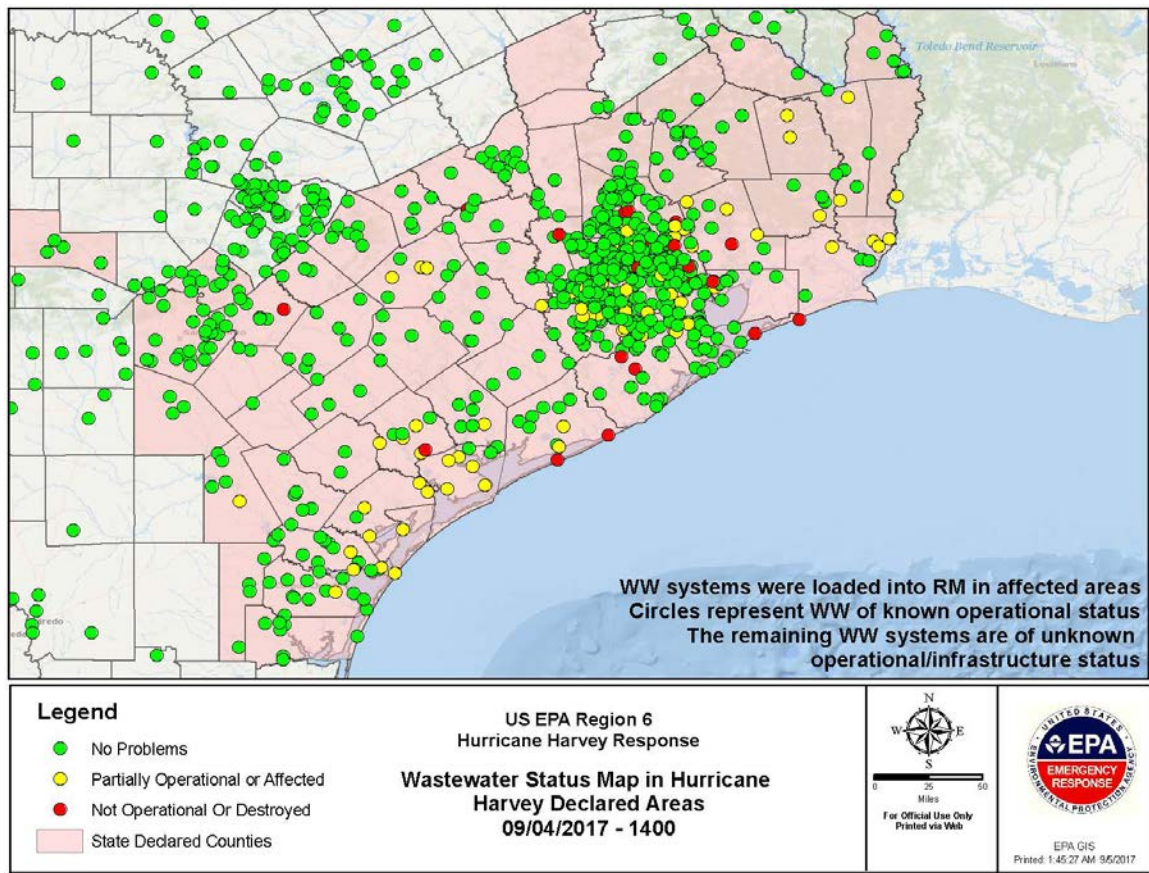
- The number of personnel on-scene has increased. Natural Disaster Operational Workgroup training was conducted and responders were briefed on EPA tracking protocol. Two EPA trailers arrived and a Gulf Strike Team Command Trailer. Three contractors were added for data and mapping support.
- A spill was reported at an abandoned leaking well in Orangefield, Orange County, Texas. EPA responded to the active discharge, and EPA contractors placed sorbent pad and boom.
- A hazard evaluation team identified a potential release from a rail car, Texas General Land Office (TGLO) is taking the lead for coordination.
- An overflight conducted observation, noting numerous sites for follow-up.
- It is anticipated that seven teams are to perform ground assessments with TGLO and TCEQ today.

DRINKING WATER / WASTEWATER ASSESSMENTS

EPA is providing support to TCEQ for DW and WW system assessments. There are 10 members at the TCEQ Austin phone bank including one assisting with data flow and technical regulatory questions. In addition, DW and WW assessment teams are currently set up in Houston, with additional members arriving this week. Current Houston response activities consist of nine EPA personnel conducting DW or WW assessments in the Harris County area. In addition, two members are providing support to the City of Beaumont in coordination with TCEQ. Additional EPA personnel will arrive in Houston today to conduct field assessments in the Houston Branch.

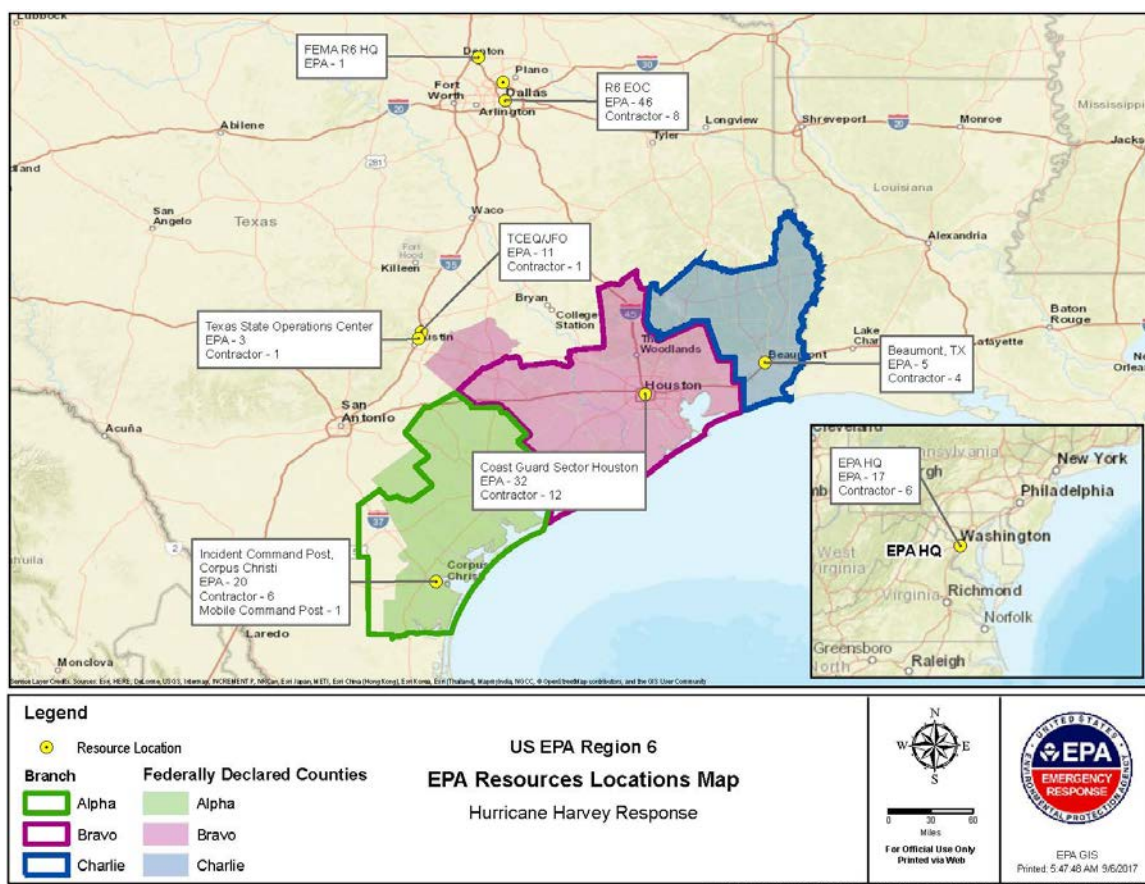
Drinking Water and Waste Water Assessments (September 5, 2017)		
Assessment Types	Daily Assessments	Total Assessments
On-Site DW Assessments	15	102
On-Site WW Assessments	14	80
Phone DW Assessments	438	4402
Phone WW Assessments	112	2803





EPA RESOURCES

Personnel	EPA Dallas, TX	FEMA Denton, TX	Texas JFO Austin, TX	Texas SOC Austin, TX	TCEQ Austin, TX	Houston, TX	Corpus Christi, TX	Beaumont, TX	HQ EOC, Wash, DC	TOTAL
EPA	46	1	1	3	10	32	20	5	17	135
START	8			1	1	12	6	4		32
ERRS						7	8			15
Other Contractors	1								6	7
TOTAL	55	1	1	4	11	51	34	9	23	189



FUNDING

September 5, 2017, UPDATED 1300 hours

Funding Sources	Funding Ceiling	Funding Ceiling Less Indirect	Spent to Date	Remaining Balance	Daily Burn Rate	Days Remaining
Non Mission Assignment	N/A		\$64,200.00	\$0.00		
MA 4332DR-TX-EPA-01	\$275,000.00	\$242,741.00	\$16,272.00	\$226,469.00	\$2,848.00	79.52
MA 4332DR-TX-EPA-03	\$8,592,000.00	\$7,584,077.00	\$3,586,730.86	\$3,997,346.14	\$291,500.98	13.71
Totals:	\$8,867,000.00	\$7,826,818.00	\$3,667,202.86	\$4,223,815.14		

** Indirect costs represent the money the Cincinnati Shared Service Center takes off the top to manage the Mission Assignments

REFINERIES/FUEL WAIVERS

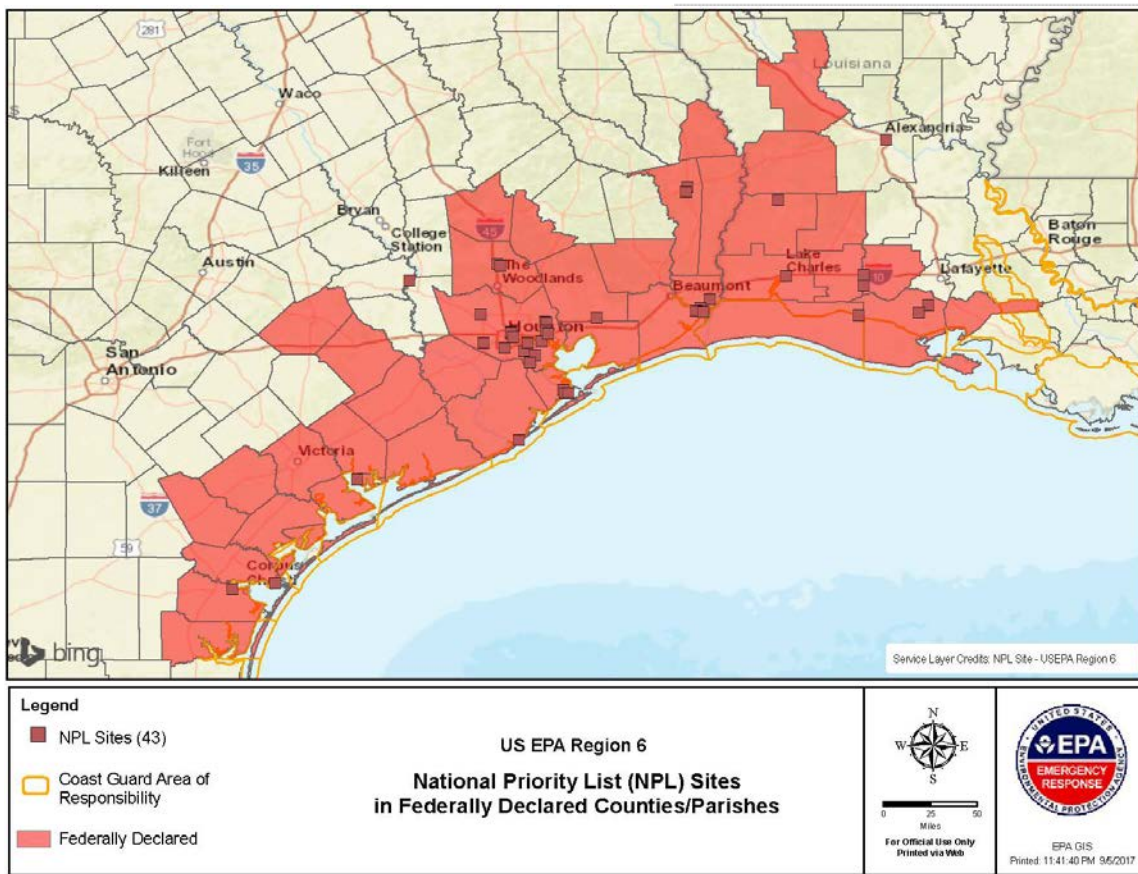
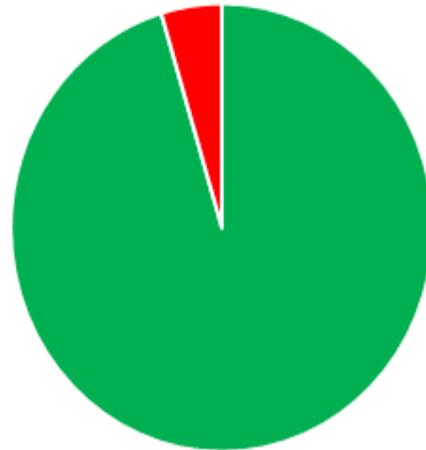
- EPA has granted all open fuel waivers requested to date.
- Colonial Pipeline was reopened.
- Ports of Corpus Christi and Houston are open.
- EPA has issued a No Action Assurance for the Use of Vapor Recovery Systems in Texas Related to Hurricane Harvey (September 1, 2017). EPA will exercise its discretion not to pursue enforcement for violations of the vapor recovery requirements for fuel loading and unloading under 40 CFR Part 60 Subpart XX and Part 63 Subparts, R, Y, CC, BBBB, and 30 Texas Administrative Code sections 115.212, .214.

- The Internal Revenue Service has expanded the red dye fuel waiver to cover the entire state of Texas, not just the 110 counties as before.

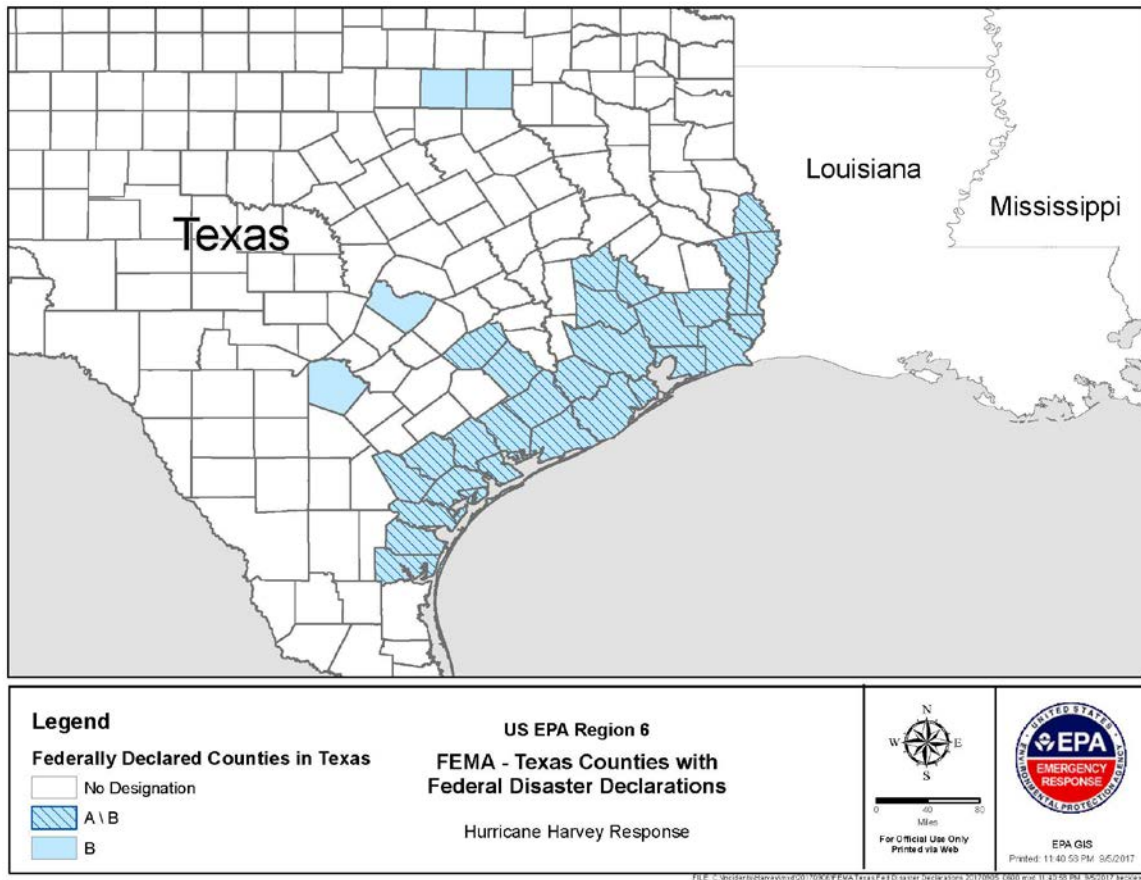
FEDERAL SUPERFUND NPL SITES

- All 43 Federal Superfund NPL Sites in the affected area have been assessed.
- 41 sites have been cleared.
- Two sites (San Jacinto Pits and US Oil Recovery) require additional follow-up scheduled for today.

Federal Superfund Sites



FEMA – TEXAS COUNTIES WITH DISASTER DECLARATIONS



9/5/2017 FIELD ACTIVITIES

PHOTOS

Water Assessment Team

